Elections in J & K

2771. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 728 given in the Rajya Sabha on 16th March, 1995 and state:

(a) in what manner the migrants would be assured to exercise their right to vote; and

(b) whether Government propose any all party meeting at the State as well as at the central level to discuss the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) to (b) The Election Commission had given specific directions to the State Government to make special arrangements for publication of electoral rolls and for receipt and disposal of claims from the migrants who have been living temporarily in various parts of the State. Action has been taken accordingly. It is expected that the Election Commission would give appropriate directions as may be necessary to ensure that the migrants from the State of Jammu & Kashmir are able to exercise their franchise freely.

Activities of J.K.L.F. Militants around Hazratbal Shrine

2772. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that J.K.L.F. militants have occupied areas around the Hazratbal Shrine in Srinagar as reported in the Indian Express dated the 17th February, 1995;

(b) whether it is also a fact that militants' aim is to enter the Shrine so as to repeat the past incident; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take to thwart their aim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) There was an incident at Hazratbal on 10th February, 1995 when Mohd. Yasin Malik, President, JKLF had announced his programme of addressing the Friday Congregation at Hazratbal on that day. There was an altercation between the followers of JKLF and Hizbul Mujahideen, resulting in the death of Mohd. Yousuf Khan alias Khan, an important activist of the JKLF.

(c) The Security Forces posted at the Shrine are vigilant and are taking all necessary steps to maintain peace in the Complex.

Armed clashes between Militants to gain control over Hazratbal Shrine

2773. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an armed clash had occurred between the outlawed groups of Hizbul Mujahideen and Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front on 10th February last in their attempt to gain control over the historic Hazratbal Shrine; and

(b) if so, details of the timely steps taken or being taken by Government to see that the Hazratbal Shrine does not again become the centre of militants, activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) On February 10, 1995, there was a group clash between some JKLF and Hizbul Mujahideen militants at Hazratbal. The Hizbul Mujahideen militants shot dead one Mohd. Yusuf Khan alias Khan, an activist of the JKLF. The Security Forces posted at the Shrine are vigilant and are taking all necessary steps to maintain peace in the complex.